

## REMARKS

The statement in the outstanding Office Action that claims 21 and 24-27 are allowed is appreciated.

It is additionally appreciated that the outstanding Office Action states that claims 3, 5, 8-12, 17, 22, and 23 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. It is believed that the claims have been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In addition, certain dependent claims have been introduced as independent claims.

The features of claim 3 have been introduced into claim 1.

Claim 8 has been rewritten as independent claim 28.

Claim 12 has been rewritten as independent claim 29.

In view of the amendment to independent claim 1 and the introduction of independent claims 28-32, many of the claims have been canceled and many other claims have been amended to correct claim dependency. For example, claim 5 now depends on claim 1 and claim 9 now depends on claim 28.

Claims 1-20, 22, and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In view of the above amendment, it is believed that the grounds for this rejection have been removed. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 13-16, and 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,892,719 to *Gesser*. In view of the above amendment, it is submitted that these claims are no longer pending in this application, and withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

In particular, it is pointed out that the features of claim 3 have been introduced into claim 1. Because claim 3 has not been rejected over *Gesser*, it is understood that the rejection over *Gesser* does not apply to amended claim 1. In addition, it is submitted that the rejection over *Gesser* does not apply to the claims dependent upon claim 1.

The outstanding Office Action includes several objections to the specification. The Examiner is thanked for identifying the list of objections. Furthermore, the list of objections have been addressed by the above amendments to the specification.

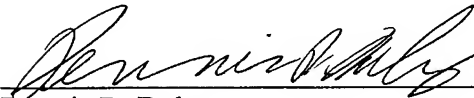
It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

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Dennis R. Daley  
Reg. No. 34,994  
DRD:jjb:sl